

Koestler Awards

Without the Koestler Trust I would have had nothing in prison to show me that I can change, and I could make a new future for myself. Hearing people say positive things about my work is a new experience and drives me to keep trying.

— 2018 Koestler Award entrant, HM Prison Wymott

Our entrants to the Awards...



Feedback

For many entrants, external encouragement can be a vital stepping stone in building self-confidence, positive relationships and engaging with education. 93.5% of entrants received written feedback, 171 Under 18's submitting 293 artworks received Fast feedback.

Awards numbers

£33,385

cash money as shared prize to 912 Award entrants

7,105

award entries in 52 arts categories

Awards steps

- Jan — April **Artwork received at Koestler Arts Centre**
- Jan — Apr **Regional Exhibitions from previous editions**
- Apr — Jul **Entries logged onto our database**
- Jun — Jul **Judging**
- Jul — Aug **Feedback writing**
- End of Aug **Awards announced**
- Oct **Certificates and prize money**
- Sept — Nov **UK exhibition**
- Dec **Artwork sales money sent to artists**
- Jan — Mar **Artwork returned to artists**

3,616

award entrants

2,224

awards won

282

prisons, secure hospitals, children's homes, immigration removal centres

102

judges including Jeremy Deller, Louis Theroux, Shaun Attwood, Tim Dooley, Ghetts, Hot Chip, Alan Kane, Emma Bridgewater

Our Projects

Postcards from Prison
Exhibition and fundraiser event hosted by Sotheby's featuring original artworks on postcards by high-profile artists and artists in prisons across the country, and a ticketed postcard lottery helping us raise £12,500.

We received 218 postcards from 132 artists in 54 secure settings.

Postcard artworks donated by 38 renowned British artists including Anish Kapoor, Tracey Emin, Jeremy Deller, Alan Kane, Cornelia Parker, Maggi Hambling, Eileen Cooper, Humphrey Ocean and many more.

100 Years On: An Art Trail by Women in Prison
Supported by Barrow Cadbury Trust, the project saw 83 venues displaying work across the country with 84 artworks on display, created and submitted by 58 women in 26 establishments.

Open House London
(September 2017)

Published an anthology of poetry
From the Koestler Awards which has sold over 550 copies.

Launch of the Lammy Review
(September 2017) – 10 paintings by BAME prisoners at the RSA (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce)

Our Exhibitions

UK Exhibition
INSIDE, curated by Antony Gormley:
— 165 artworks exhibited
— 30,000+ visitors attended exhibitions

Regional Exhibitions
Showcased 356 artworks to regional audiences across the UK of more than 50,000 people
— **Storytime** at Supreme Court, London
— **Narrative**, Koestler Trust Scotland Exhibition, Tramway, Glasgow
— **Chip Night**, Koestler Trust East of England Exhibition, First Site, Colchester
— **First Impressions**, Portraits from Prison, at three churches in Westminster

It is such a wonderful and uplifting experience to read what the viewing public thinks of my work and this has energised and motivated me to want to create even more.

— 2018 Entrant, HMP Whatton

Artwork Sales
— 51% increase in art sales
— £6,428 donated to Victim Support

Our Outreach & Mentoring

We extend the impact of the Koestler Awards with prison visits, mentoring and employment programmes for ex-prisoners. We can reach more individuals and offer hope and ambition to ex-prisoners.

951

Active Koestler Associates

A members scheme open to all Awards entrants, invited to participate in special projects.

38

Establishment Visits

Including 14 female prisons, 4 Secure Mental Health Units and 4 MHP YOI's or YOI's (27 from Apr–Mar).

30

People on Mentoring Programme

Since 2007 our Arts Mentoring has aimed to harness the uniquely transformative power of the arts to help these individuals continue improving their artistic talents, gaining skills and confidence to help them lead creative and productive lives after leaving prison through working with an arts mentor.

- 85% of mentees report no reoffending
- 90% engage with family through the arts practice
- 75% visit an educational institution
- 90% regularly access local cultural amenities
- 40% will attend a training or educational course
- 92% have not reoffended

7

Ex-prisoners as Exhibition Hosts

Recruited, trained and employed

- 86% of our Hosts are currently in employment
- 5 with the Southbank Centre
- 92% of our previous ex-prisoner Exhibition Hosts have not reoffended, 5 were employed at the Southbank Centre following their Host roles.

5

Family Days

Enabling the families of exhibited artists to celebrate their achievements by seeing their art in a exhibition.

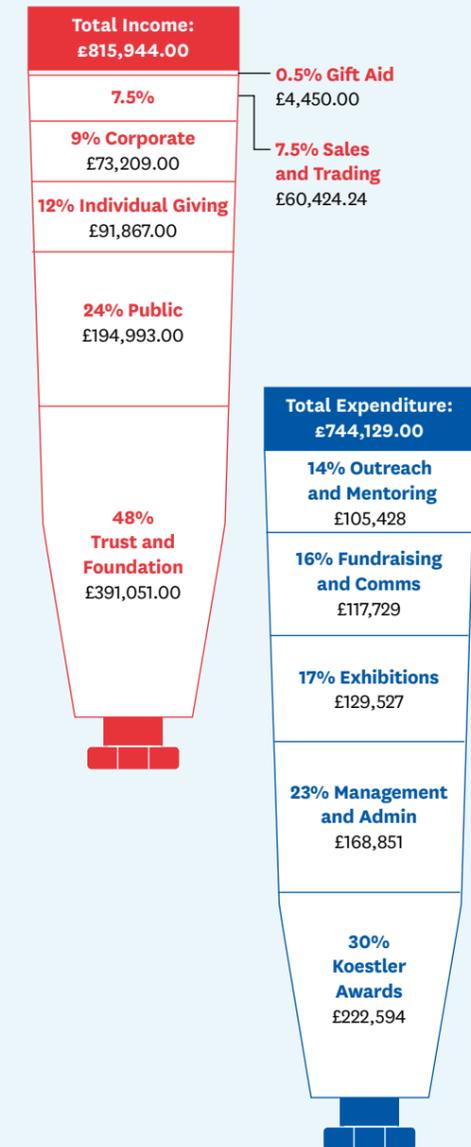
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Prisoners volunteering on day release

Helping us run the Koestler Awards and gaining valuable work experience.

Income & Expenditure 2017–18

The Koestler Trust fundraises all year round to ensure we secure the £750,000 per year we need to run our activities. We are enormously hugely grateful to all the Individuals (12%), Trusts and Foundations (48%), Public funders (24%), and Corporate supporters (9%) who have supported us.



Future Plans 2018–19

As well continuing our work to deliver our mission we are working on the following developments:

Exhibitions

- **2018 UK Exhibition** at Southbank Centre, curated by prisoners' families
- **Turner Contemporary**, Margate (Jan 2019)
- **House of St Barnabas** (Spring 2019)
- **Snape Maltings**, Suffolk (Aug 2019)

Projects

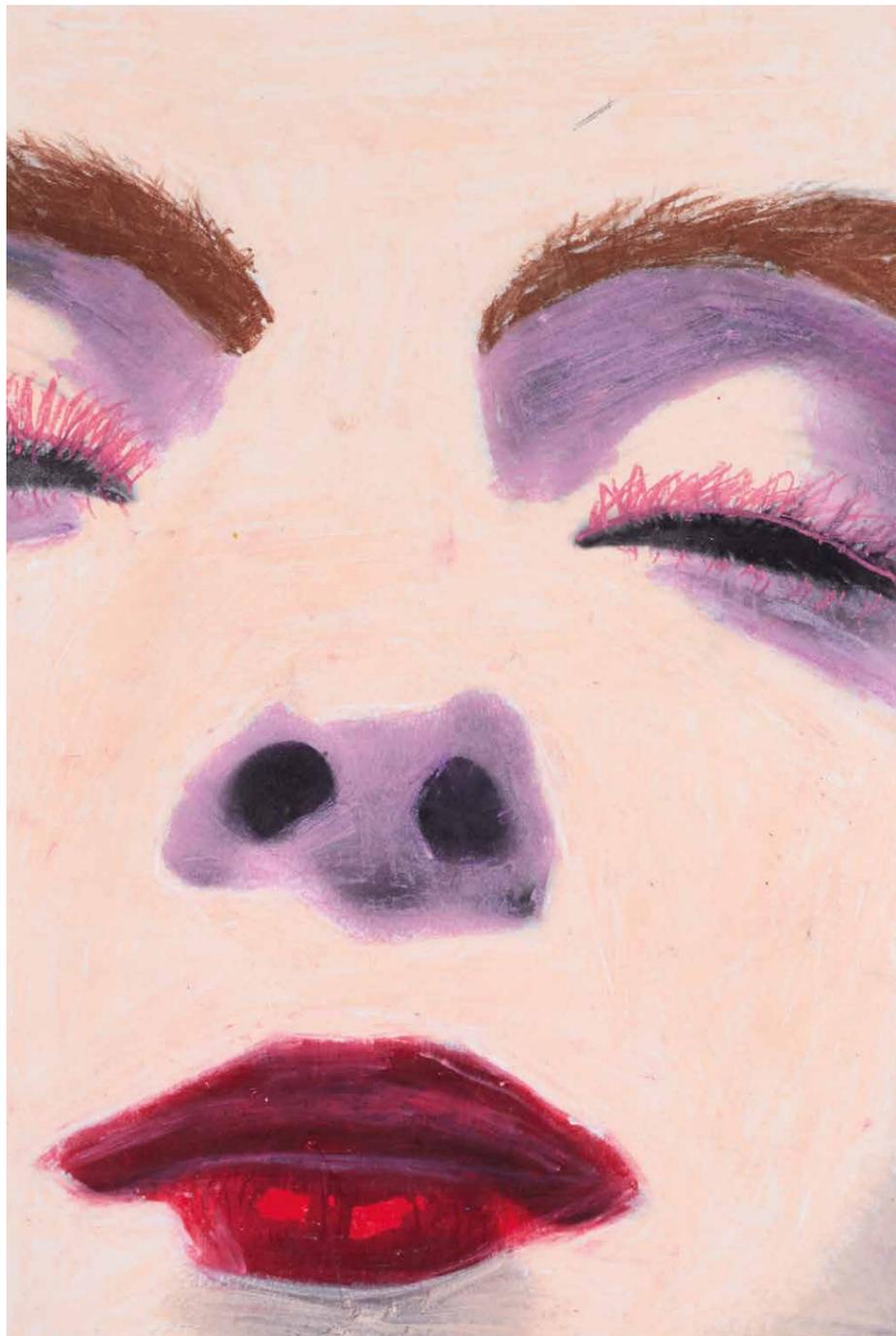
Commissioned an independent study into the role of the Koestler Trust's Arts Award in improving prisons and prisoners by Manchester Metropolitan University

I had worked so hard trying to earn a place in your exhibition last year ... I set that as a goal, promising my mum I would give it everything I've got and when you invited her up again that meant I had actually set myself a target and reached it and I've never done that before. The sense of self-worth that has given me is a big part of the reason I'm doing so well now on this 12 steps programme ... it has changed the way I look at myself and the way others look at me also.

— Exhibited artist

The Trust has given me the opportunity to become more confident in my own ability. This has helped me in aspects of my life and recovery in supporting me to break my cycle of offending and enjoy more meaningful and positive activities in my life. I have much gratitude to you for this and now actively promote the Trust to as many individuals and organisations as I can.

— Associate and Postcard from Prison artist



Acknowledgements

We are thankful to all the generous individuals who have supported our work this year, without whom we would not have been able to achieve our aims and deliver our activities, outcomes and impact. We are grateful to prison, secure hospital and immigration removal centre staff and volunteers for their front-line motivational work, to arts charities who facilitate Koestler Award entries.

Thanks to our Koestler Awards judges for sharing their time and expertise, and all our volunteers who make the awards possible. We would like to thank the Arts Council of England, Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service and all our funders and supporters:

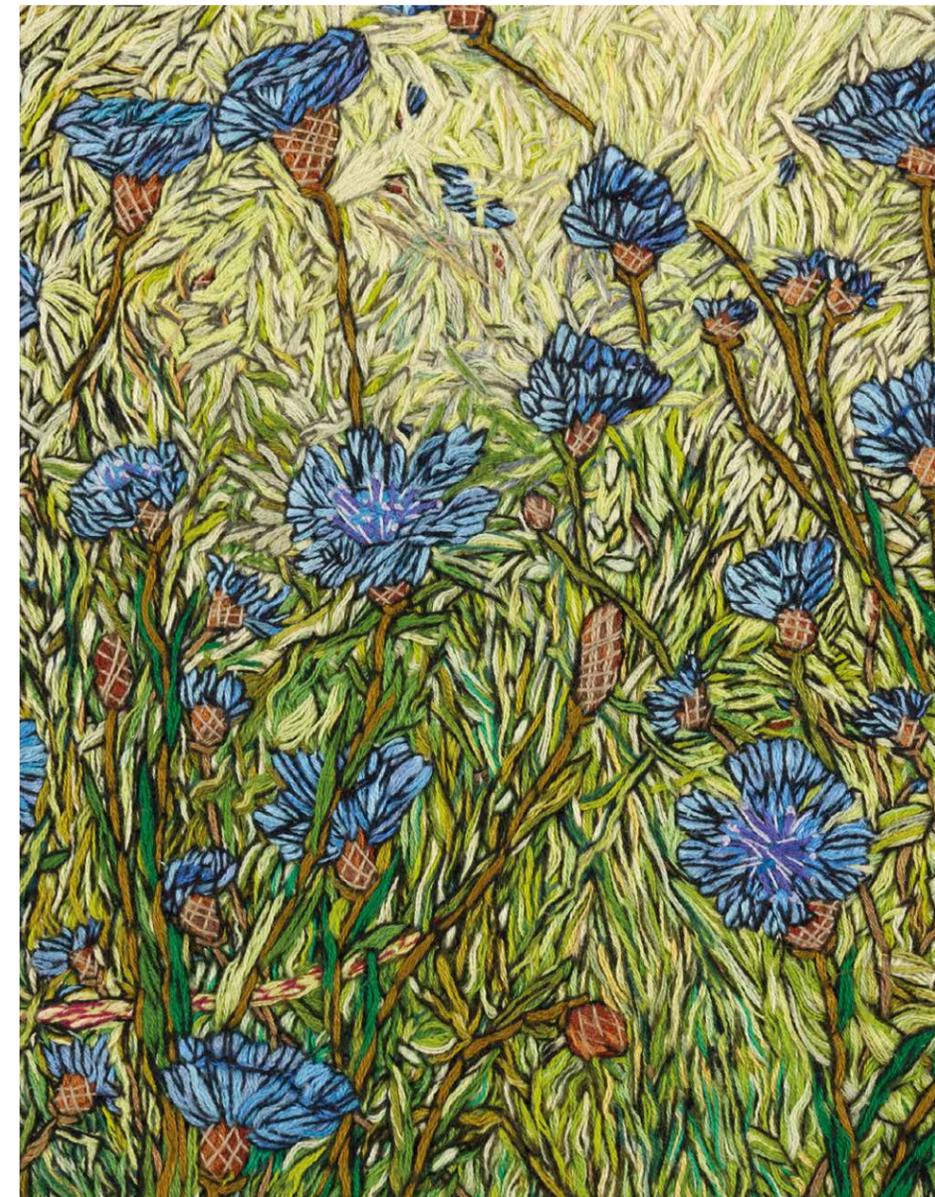
- 30 new Koestler Friends
- 151 individuals and organisations Named an Award in 2017.

A B Charitable Trust, A M G & G Wyburd Trust, Alchemy Foundation, Arts Society Chiltern Hills Area, Arts Society Greater London Area, Arts Society Ayrshire, Artists' Collecting Society, Barrow Cadbury Trust, Bromley Trust, CCLA, CD Stockwell Charitable Trust, Colston Educational Trust, Cottisford Charitable Trust, Criminal Bar Association, Dawes Trust, Doughty Street Chambers, D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust, Edith Murphy Foundation, Elysium Healthcare, Engaging Minds, Ericson Trust, Essex Community Foundation, Evan Cornish Foundation, Fitton Trust, Foundry Chambers, Fowler Smith and Jones Trust, G4S, Garfield Weston Foundation, Gilander Foundation, Goldsmiths' Company, Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust, Hammersmith United Charities, Hanley Trust, Henry Smith Charity, The Hiscox Foundation, Hochhauser Foundation, Honourable M L Astor's 1969 Charity, Interserve Employee Foundation, Jacana Care Trust, Jessie Spencer Trust, Lloyds Bank Foundation, Maingot Charitable Trust, Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Trust, Matthew Trust, Michael Varah Memorial Fund, Mila Charitable Organisation, Monument Trust, New Scotland Yard, Odin Charitable Trust, Ofenheim Charitable Trust, Park Hill Charitable Trust, Paul Lunn-Rockcliffe Charitable Trust, Pitt-Rivers Charitable Trust, Robert Gavron Charitable Trust, Royal Holloway University School of Law, Robertson Trust, Serco Group, Sir Charles Jessel Trust, Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund, Sodexo Justice Services, Stoneybridge Trust, Taurus Foundation, Triangle Trust, T. S. Eliot Foundation, Unilink, United Agents, William ArthurRudd Memorial Trust, Valentine Charitable Trust, Worshipful Company of Weavers, Worthing Quakers.

I want to celebrate this great resource: the imaginations of the 85,000 prisoners currently in UK prisons and those in secure establishments. Art is a place in which you can do what you like; it needs not be for or about anyone else but the artist. In the words of one prisoner, 'in our minds we can always be free'. I want this work to say something to all of us outside about what it feels like to be a detainee, inside.

— Antony Gormley, Artist and 2017 Curator

Cover: Cornflower Blue, HMP Leyhill, Bronze Award for Needlecraft and Doughty Street Chambers Visitors' Choice Platinum Award, 2017; Inner left page image: Letter to My Mother, HMP Channings Wood, First time Entrant Award for Watercolour, 2017; Inner right page image: Happiness, Atkinson Secure Unit (secure children's home), Portrait, 2017. Founded by the late Arthur Koestler, Sir Hugh Casson CH and the Hon David Astor CH; Lord Ramsbotham GCB CBE (Hon President); Sally Taylor (Chief Executive); Trustees: Dame Anne Owers (Chair), Ariane Bankes, David Banks, Nicholas Bowlby, Stephen Chambers RA, Zilda Cheattle, Erwin James, Andy Lattimore, Femi Martin, Herbert Nahapiet OBE, Anxndrea Rose, Robert Taylor. Registered charity no. 1105759. Company limited by guarantee no.4961363. Registered office HMP Wormwood Scrubs, 168a Du Cane Road, London W12 0TX



Impact Statement
2017-2018



The Koestler Trust

The Koestler Trust is the UK's leading prison arts charity. Since 1962 we have been helping more prisoners change their lives and more people change their minds about prison and prisoners. The Koestler Awards are simple and powerful – we reward achievement, build self-confidence and open new horizons for some of society's most disadvantaged and marginalised people.

2017-2018 has been a key year for the Koestler Trust, and despite the challenges faced across the secure estate we were thrilled last year to have seen an increase in entrants, entries and establishments represented. 3,616 people entering 7,105 visual artworks, music and writing into the 52 categories of the Koestler Awards from 282 establishments were granted 2,224 awards by 100 expert judges.

Through our Koestler Awards we sought to harness the uniquely transformative power of the arts to motivate prisoners, secure hospital patients and immigration detainees to learn the skills and gain the confidence to live creative, positive and productive lives.

Our outreach work and public exhibitions helped to increase public awareness of their potential contribution to the arts and their communities, and we were delighted to reach so many people through INSIDE, our 2017 UK exhibition at Southbank Centre which was curated by Antony Gormley.

The role of the arts in supporting the rehabilitative journeys of prisoners has been increasingly highlighted, recently receiving public endorsement from Secretary of State for Justice David Gauke.

With over 55 years' experience in this field we are confident we have the tools and experience to continue successfully facing the challenging climate of prisons today.

We are hugely grateful to all of those who have helped us celebrate achievement in the arts among individuals in secure settings who are often sidelined or voiceless, and we hope you share our pride in having made this possible.

Dame Anne Owers, Chair of Trustees
Sally Taylor, Chief Executive

Koestler Trust
arts by offenders ■■■